

## Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SAJ-01

/055 W

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R 091819Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5389

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, UR

SUBJ: BREZHNEV ON STAGE

1. BREZHNEV HAS PARTICIPATED IN FIVE PUBLIC OCCASIONS IN LAST SEVERAL DAYS -- EACH GIVEN LENGTHY COVERAGE ON LOCAL TV -- ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE CEREMONIES FOR HONECKER (BREZHNEV RODE TO AND FROM AIRPORT WITH HIM AS WELL) TALKS WITH HONECKER; KREMLIN RECEPTION AT WHICH BREZHNEV READ TOAST WHICH LASTED HALF HOUR; AND SPEECH AND ATTENDANCE AT LENGTHY CELEBRATION OF 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. ON ALL OCCASIONS MEDIA IMAGE HAS BEEN OF AN ACTIVE AND BUSY LEADER. WESTERN DIPLOMATS WHO HAVE SEEN HIM AT CLOSE RANGE HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED BY HIS GAIT AND DEMEANOR AS WELL AS HIS OVERALL PHYSICAL APPEARANCE AND RELATIVE CLARITY OF SPEECH. HIS PRESENT PERFORMANCE IN THIS REGARD IS FAR SUPERIOR TO THAT NOTED DURING HIS HELSINKI SPEECH OF JULY 31. HOWEVER, A CERTAIN ELEMENT OF STAGE MANAGEMENT MAY BE PRESENT SINCE MOST OF BREZHNEV'S PUBLIC APPEARANCES HAVE BEEN RELATIVELY SHORT AND HAVE NOT THEREFORE POSED A DRAIN ON HIS STAMINA. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF BREZHNEV WERE IN UNUSUALLY BAD CONDITION, AS HAS BEEN STATED IN

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RECENT WESTERN PRESS STORIES, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT

HE WOULD HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO OUTSIDE VIEW, EVEN  
OF SUCH DEPENDABLE SATRAPS AS HONECKER, STOPH AND  
SINDERMANN. IN ANY CASE, SOVIET MEDIA AUDIENCES  
WOULD CERTAINLY GAIN IMPRESSION OF ACTIVE LEADER  
VERY MUCH IN CHARGE OF THE USSR.

2. NEVERTHELESS, OUR IMPRESSION THAT BREZHNEV'S  
STAMINA IS STILL LIMITED WAS REINFORCED BY HIS  
ABSENCE FROM EAST GERMAN RECEPTION OCT. 7, DESPITE FACT  
THAT PRAVDA REPORTED HIS ATTENDANCE. WE ASSUME THAT  
BREZHNEV WAS HUSBANDING ENERGY THAT EVENING AFTER  
HIS SPEECH AT ACADEMY OF SCEINCES JUBLIEE SINCE HE  
SAW OFF GDR DELEGATION ON FOLLOWING MORNING AND  
SEEMED IN EBULLIENT SPRITS. ON THAT OCCASION  
EXCHANGE OF THREE KISSES WITH HONECKER SQUARE ON THE  
MOUTH SUGGESTS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT HE IS NOT  
CURRENTLY SUFFERING FROM ANY COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.  
STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HEALTH  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
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**Review Date:** 12 MAY 2003  
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**Subject:** BREZHNEV ON STAGE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, UR, (BREZHNEV, LENOID I)  
**To:** STATE  
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